



October 3rd, 2005

Representative Sherwood Boehlert
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Boehlert:

On behalf of the 46,000 members of the Association of Flight Attendants – CWA, AFL-CIO, (AFA-CWA), I write to express our strong support for H.R. 3762, which would reduce the amount of oil used for fuel by automobiles in the United States by 10 percent beginning in 2016. Such crucial legislation is urgently needed and we applaud your efforts to enact such legislation into law.

As you know, six U.S. airlines, four of them represented by AFA-CWA, currently have filed for bankruptcy protection and others are reported to be considering taking such action. One of the major reasons for these dire economic circumstances is because of the skyrocketing cost of jet fuel. Our members are being forced to bear the costs of these fuel prices in the form of further salary reductions, reduced benefits and in some cases lost pensions. That is why we believe it is so urgent that the United States Congress do what is necessary to reduce our country's long term demand for oil and take all necessary steps to reduce that demand.

Implementing meaningful fuel economy standards is one of those important steps that must be taken. Implementation of fuel economy standards in the past reduced overall demand for oil and resulted in a reduction of costs. Furthermore, the technology exists, with the National Academy of Sciences identifying 17 existing fuel-efficient technologies that U.S. automakers could implement to make more fuel-efficient cars. Hopefully, your legislation will help get us to that point.

We understand that implementing higher fuel efficiency standards is not the silver bullet that will bring down skyrocketing jet fuel costs overnight. However, it is one of many steps that the U.S. Congress must take in order to begin to address this severe economic crisis. In order to secure a vibrant and economically healthy domestic aviation system this and other steps must be taken and we urge the House of Representatives to pass this legislation as soon as possible.

We look forward to working with you to pass this legislation and other legislation that will address these problems. Our members appreciate your efforts.

Respectfully,

Patricia A. Friend
International President